

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Priority	Strategy	Time Frame	Responsible Party
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>			
A	Retain existing economic development programs administered through the Department of Planning and Development, including the Small Business Revolving Loan Program and the <u>Commercial Facade Restoration Grant Program for Main Street.</u>	Immediate	Planning and Development Dept., Development Division
A	Inventory all mill sites and maintain a space analysis of each mill so that potential uses may be identified.	Immediate	Economic Development Dept.
A	Make every effort to realize the rehabilitation and industrial reuse of vacant and underutilized mill buildings.	Short Term	Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept.
A	Encourage the Northern Rhode Island Regional Economic Development Division and established business alliances to market the mill resource and to secure grants for rehabilitation. One mill should be selected and rehabilitated, as a showcase example of what <u>can be done, and to generate pro-formas and cost estimates.</u>	Short Term	Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept.
A	Work with the Northern Rhode Island Regional Economic Development Division and established business alliances toward the creation of a regional approach to economic <u>development.</u>	Short Term	Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept.
A	Work closely with the Woonsocket Industrial Development Corporation, the Blackstone Valley Development Foundation, surrounding Northern Rhode Island Communities and the State of Rhode Island to <u>develop a regional economic plan.</u>	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
A	Make every effort to insure that the future workforce receives a decent and competitive education.	Immediate	Education Dept., City Council, Mayor's Office
A	Work closely with all established State, regional and local groups including the Northern Rhode Island Private Industry Council, the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce, and the business community to upgrade the skills level of the workforce and to match future <u>workers with future business needs.</u>	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
A	Create a task force made up of City officials and members of the education and job training <u>community to study existing programs and identify future needs.</u>	Immediate	Economic Development Dept.
A	Coordinate, support and encourage State efforts and efforts of agencies such as the Northern Rhode Island Private Industry Council to create stronger education to education linkages and <u>industry to education linkages.</u>	Short Term	Economic Development Dept., Education Dept.
A	Establish a Strategic Development Commission made up of City officials, businesspeople, labor and community leaders.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept., City Council

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A	Simplify and coordinate all City functions that impact business.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept., Mayor's Office, City Council
A	Work with State organizations to encourage business outreach/linkage with public and private job training agencies.	Immediate	Economic Development Dept.
A	Encourage education-business relationships and job opportunities.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
A	Make efforts to involve existing businesspeople, whenever possible, in the study and decision-making processes.	Immediate	Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept.
<u>A</u>	<u>Work with a private developer to develop the Municipal Economic Development (MED) Zone east of Park Square, which will provide new jobs for area residents and provide sales tax dollars which would go directly to the City for 10 years.</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept., City Council, Planning Board, Mayor's Office</u>
<u>A</u>	<u>Work to acquire all parcels within the proposed Hamlet Avenue Redevelopment Area and proceed with building demolition and site clean-up, and market the sites to prospective developers.</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept., City Council, Planning Board, Mayor's Office</u>
B	Study potential product/supply linkages to recruit businesses that will support existing businesses in the region.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
B	Encourage the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce to define and expand the role of the Regional Economic Development Division, and the Northern Rhode Island Marketing Council.	Immediate	Economic Development Dept.
B	Work closely with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council, the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce, and other established business alliances to include Woonsocket as a destination for regional tours, meetings and seminars of economic development professionals.	Short Term	Planning and Development Dept., Economic Development Dept.
B	Lobby the State of Rhode Island to take the lead in encouraging more progressive attitudes in the business community concerning such issues as day care and flex time.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
B	Lobby for new legislation and monitor current legislation on day care, flex time and other workplace issues.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
B	Encourage the Private Industry Council, the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce, and other established business alliances to survey the workforce to identify priorities and present the information to the City.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
B	Explore local funding possibilities using the Workforce 2000 Job Development Fund.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.

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B	Produce a handbook to inform the business community of available City services and options to help offset the costs of doing business while providing greater job opportunities to Woonsocket residents.	Immediate	Economic Development Dept.
C	Work with the Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce and other established business alliances to create a business-to-business communication network, including the development of lists of local suppliers to help small businesses pool resources and realize greater economies of scale.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
C	Strive, in conjunction with area colleges and training agencies, to educate the business community (particularly small businesses) and to encourage businesses to address such issues as day care, flex time, and on the job training.	Short Term	Economic Development Dept.
<b>LAND USE ELEMENT</b>			
A	Create a Heritage Corridor River Overlay Zone to ensure that development and redevelopment along the Blackstone River is visually and environmentally appropriate.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
A	Amend the Zoning Map to include the boundaries of the proposed Heritage Corridor River Overlay Zone.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
A	Rezone the lots composing the Woonsocket Industrial Park from limited General Commercial (C-3 limited) to Light Industrial (I-1).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
A	Rezone certain parcels in the vicinity of Iron Rock Brook from Low Density Single-Family and Multi-Family Residential (R-5A) to Conservation District (PR-2), upon acquisition by the City. (See Proposed Land Use Map.)	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
A	Rezone certain parcels in and adjacent to the Highland Industrial Park from Conservation District (PR-2) to Light Industrial (I-1), upon transfer of conservation easements by the City to Iron Rock Brook conservation land. (See Proposed Land Use Map.)	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
A	Establish new Mixed Use Residential/Commercial (MU-1) and Mixed Use Commercial/Industrial (MU-2) districts to provide flexibility and more closely reflect existing patterns of development.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
<u>A</u>	<u>Establish Municipal Economic Development (MED) Zone east of Park Square for commercial development and rezone properties from Very Low and Low Density Residential (R-1 and R-2) to Major Commercial (C-2).</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board / City Council</u>
<u>A</u>	<u>Rezone Lafayette Worcested Mill Complex on Hamlet Avenue and Florence Drive from Light Industrial (I-1) to Mixed Use Industrial/Commercial (MU-2).</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board / City Council</u>

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<u>A</u>	<u>Rezone approximately 6 acres of City-owned land south of Diamond Hill Road and north of Patton Drive from Active Public Recreation (PR-1) land to Major Commercial (C-2).</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board / City Council</u>
<u>A</u>	<u>Rezone approximately 26 acres west of Wanda Avenue from Very Low Density (R-1) to Active Public Recreation (PR-1), and rezone approximately 4 acres from Active Public Recreation (PR-1) to Very Low Density Residential (R-1). Add new PR-1 land to the Booth</u>	<u>Immediate</u>	<u>Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board / City Council</u>
B	Adopt a Soil Erosion Control Ordinance to prevent non-point source pollution of the City's water bodies, and to preserve the integrity of Woonsocket's landscape.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Engineering Division
B	Develop and enforce broad base performance criteria for the regulation of all industrial uses.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Eliminate the present Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) and Restricted Commercial (C-2) districts.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Replace the present General Commercial (C-3) district with an Urban Commercial (new C-1) district, with regulations aimed at ensuring that new development is appropriate to the urban context of surrounding properties within this district.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Replace the present Major Commercial (C-4) district with a Shopping Plaza (new C-2) district, with regulations aimed at ensuring that new development is appropriate to the contemporary, automobile-oriented context of surrounding properties within this district.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Revise the Design Review Ordinance.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Design Review Commission
B	Review current parking requirements for commercial properties and revise as necessary, in accordance with accepted traffic engineering standards.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Engineering Division
B	Grant discretionary authority to the Zoning Officer for the approval of minor dimensional variances, in cases where no abutters to the applicant property are opposed to the requested variance, as consistent with State law.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Zoning Board
B	Rezone properties currently zoned Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) to Residential/Commercial Mixed Use (MU-1).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Rezone properties currently zoned Restricted Commercial (C-2) to Urban Commercial (new C-1).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Rezone properties currently zoned General Commercial (C-3) to Urban Commercial (new C-1).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Rezone properties currently zoned Major Commercial (C-4) to Shopping Plaza (new C-2).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board

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B	Rezone parcels to Residential/Commercial Mixed Use (MU-1) and Commercial/Industrial Mixed Use (MU-2) as appropriate. (See Proposed Land Use Map.)	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Rezone the land encompassing the former Transfer Station from Light Industrial (I-1) to Park District (PR-1).	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Correct any internal inconsistencies within the Zoning Ordinance, and revise all associated ordinances for conformance with the revised Zoning Ordinance.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
B	Provide orientation sessions in the application of all revised ordinances and the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan for various City boards and agencies.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Investigate the possibility of reducing the number of residential zoning classifications from 7 to 4 or 5, to make the residential zoning in Woonsocket more easily understood and less cumbersome.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
C	Review set-back requirements and minimum lot sizes in residential districts and amend as necessary to more closely reflect existing patterns of development.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
C	Amend the Zoning Ordinance to provide criteria for group homes, homeless shelters, and day care facilities in conformance with State law.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board
C	Provide clarification of terms and phrases appearing in the Zoning Ordinance through the inclusion of definitions for those terms within the ordinance.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Planning Board / Zoning Board
C	Establish regulations which encourage franchise operations to adapt their building designs to harmonize with surrounding development, and discourage them from demolishing existing buildings to build new ones.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Design Review Commission
C	Adopt minimum landscape requirements for new development and redevelopment within the City's commercial and mixed use districts.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Design Review Commission
C	Establish a policy for the disposal of undevelopable parcels, including lots which are undersized, dimensionally awkward, land-locked, or located without frontage on an accepted street.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Avoid unnecessary duplication and burden to property owners through the establishment of a consolidated review process for cases involving overlapping jurisdictions of various City boards and agencies.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
<b>OPEN SPACE &amp; RECREATION ELEMENT</b>			
A	Develop a combined master plan for recreation, interpretation and tourism development along the Blackstone River, coordinated with the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission, the Woonsocket Heritage Corridor Planning and Advisory Commission, RIDEM and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Dept. of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Division
A	Protect river-frontage with appropriate land use controls, including the establishment of a Heritage Corridor River Overlay District.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development

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A	Implement a program to increase public awareness of the natural resources and recreational opportunities associated with the Heritage Corridor.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
A	Support the development of a multi-faceted Visitor Center/Labor History Museum in the Falls Yarn Mill Building to attract regional tourism in conjunction with the Woonsocket Industrial Development Corporation, the Heritage Corridor Commission and RIDEM.	Short Term	Dept. of Economic Development / Dept. of Planning and Development
A	Continue with plans to develop River Island Park, the riverfront park adjacent to the Visitor's Center.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
A	Establish public educational programs in the areas of conservation and park history, as a means of increasing understanding and appreciation of these valuable resources.	Short Term	Woonsocket Historical Society / Conservation Commission / Dept. of Planning and Development
<del>A</del>	<del>Lobby for immediate listing of the former transfer station as a Superfund site, and investigate the possibility of establishing a riverside multi-purpose recreational facility on that site.</del>	<del>Immediate</del>	<del>Dept. of Planning and Development</del>
<u>A</u>	<u><b>Plan for the conversion of the former municipal landfill off Davison Avenue into a Municipal Soccer and Golf Complex, to be developed with the assistance of State, Federal and private funding, after capping of the former landfill is complete.</b></u>	<u><b>Immediate</b></u>	<u><b>Dept. of Planning and Development / Dept. of Public Works</b></u>
A	Make a long term commitment to gradually increase the general fund appropriation for park and recreation operations, to a level comparable with per capita appropriations for parks and recreation in other Rhode Island communities. (See addendum in the Parks Recreation and Tourism Action Plan, Appendix F, for 1987 per capita appropriations.)	Long Term	Mayor's Office / Finance Dept. / City Council
<del>A</del>	<del>Remove the Parks and Recreation Division from the Department of Public Works and form an independent department combining the management function of the present Parks Division with the planning and fund generation functions that have been carried out by the Department of Planning and Development.</del>	<del>Short Term</del>	<del>Dept. of Public Works</del>
B	Create outdoor classrooms and study trails to compliment the School Department's outdoor education programs in parks adjacent to school sites.	Short Term	Education Dept. / Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Participate in the development of a revenue generation master plan for the Heritage Corridor.	Short Term	Dept. of Economic Development / Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Continue with rehabilitation efforts in the City's riverfront parks -- Cold Spring and Costa.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Dept. of Public Works
B	Lobby for the reinstatement of the Roger Williams Fund for support of Northern Rhode Island tourism development.	Immediate	Dept. of Economic Development
B	Establish an annual festival and events calendar and public awareness campaign for Woonsocket in conjunction with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council.	Short Term	Dept. of Economic Development

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B	Investigate the establishment of an annual plan for police protection in parks with specific inclusions for levels of effort, schedules and reporting mechanisms.	Short Term	Police Dept. / Parks and Recreation Division
B	Replace or recondition deteriorated play equipment and sports facilities in the City's parks.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division
B	Continue with planned improvements and rehabilitation work at Cass, Cold Spring, Costa, Dunn and Globe Parks.	Immediate	Parks and Recreation Division
B	Continue aggressive pursuit of State and federal park development grants to supplement existing municipal funding sources.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Parks and Recreation Division
B	Establish appropriate zoning regulations to guide the development of Woonsocket's remaining undeveloped areas, to limit the intensity of their development and protect their natural resources.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Continue acquiring properties where feasible and implement new open space preservation techniques to protect land for future public access.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Utilize local and State-wide resources to inventory the natural resources contained in <b>public open space and</b> conservation areas and to survey the remaining large tracts of undeveloped land for significant natural resources.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Develop a small portion of the Heritage Corridor to act as the first public benefit of the City's plans along the river and to encourage tourism.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Dept. of Economic Development
B	Continue support, both technical and monetary, for Corridor-related developments.	Short Term	Office of the Mayor / City Council
B	Monitor progress in the development of the Heritage Corridor Bikeway, <b>and work closely with State agencies to plan a specific route which maximizes public access to the riverfront and economic development opportunities in the City.</b>	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Coordinate efforts with local schools for the use of <b>public open space and</b> conservation areas for their outdoor education curricula.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Develop feature parks that promote environmental protection and enhance scenic and recreational opportunities and access along City waterways.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
B	Institute a City-wide planting program for the replacement of dead and dying plant material and the planting of trees in the parks, to improve the aesthetic quality of the parks, and to provide comfort and shade to park users.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Implement plans for the development of The Island and parks along River Street.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Investigate the creation of a municipal improvement corporation to acquire parkland along the Blackstone River in Woonsocket.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Develop park concession guidelines for the future management of visitor services along the Heritage Corridor.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division

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C	Create model "Adopt A Park" projects (park advocacy group) to capitalize on the community's desire to participate in park cleanup and improvements, for City parks and conservation areas.	Short Term	Dept. of Economic Development
C	Implement management plans in the City's <b>public open spaces and</b> conservation areas.	Short Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Make use of spoils from the Public Works Department, Highway Division as material for paths and regrading of parks wherever possible.	Short Term	Dept. of Public Works
<del>C</del>	<del>Compose a transition plan to establish a Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department and re-establish and expand the duties of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.</del>	<del>Short Term</del>	<del>Mayor's Office / Dept. of Public Works</del>
C	Reestablish the Recreation Advisory Commission for community involvement and coordination, and strengthen its role in recreation planning and provision.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Create revised policies and guidelines for the role of the Conservation Commission in relationship to the parks and recreation system.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development / Parks and Recreation Division
C	Establish a parks and recreation services revenue policy with established categories for various levels of tax subsidization and user fees.	Long Term	Mayor's Office / City Council / Finance Dept.
C	Separate non-park, non-recreation functions from the park and recreation operating budget.	Short Term	Dept. of Public Works
C	Establish a cost of services accounting procedure to provide decision makers and citizens with accurate information on the use of parks and recreation funds.	Short Term	Finance Dept. / Parks and Recreation Division
C	Investigate funding options for park acquisition and development.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Establish a system to quantify volunteer efforts expended for park and recreational services, and begin an awards program to recognize the contributions of individuals and groups.	Short Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Explore opportunities for the use of volunteers or in-kind labor forces for park development (i.e.: Civilian Conservation Corps).	Short Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Encourage the continued supply of technical support for open space and conservation efforts (i.e.: the Environmental Review Team), and lobby for streamlining of RIDEM wetland review and approval for park development.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Conduct annual parks and recreation demand surveys of the general public.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Plan and implement improvements to the access, trails, parking, and interpretive exhibit features of the conservation areas to allow for increased public use.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Establish a task force to explore the creation of a Youth Center.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Conduct annual planning workshops with parks and recreation interest groups in an effort to determine and meet the needs of all segments of Woonsocket's population.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Continue redevelopment of existing neighborhood parks with an emphasis on family and passive recreation features.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Parks and Recreation Division



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C	Continue <b>public open space and</b> conservation area acquisition by land use planning and either direct or easement purchase measures.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Continue with park rehabilitation and development as financial opportunities arise.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Parks and Recreation Division
C	Replace or recondition deteriorated play equipment and sports facilities in the City's parks.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Assess the need for improvements to Bissonette Field.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division
C	Produce a park and recreation guide/map for public use.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Create a conservation area/nature preserve guide booklet on Woonsocket's natural areas.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Work with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to ensure the continued provision of "beach buses" and to expand transportation services as needed.	Immediate	Dept. of Planning and Development
C	Create a position in the Parks Department for an expert in horticulture to maintain and improve the plant resources in the City's parks and natural areas, and to establish a City-wide tree planting program.	Long Term	Parks and Recreation Division
D	Establish a parks classification system including categories for play lots, neighborhood parks, City-wide parks, conservation areas and special parks as a priority function of the newly formed Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Analyze all existing City property for potential neighborhood park classification, and land bank suitable parcels for future development whenever possible.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Determine and implement a supervisory management system for the City's parks, including the small neighborhood playgrounds.	Short Term	Parks and Recreation Division
D	Explore other opportunities to fund park development.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Investigate the creation of a municipal improvement corporation.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Explore the demand for the acquisition of parkland adjacent to a conservation area for the development of a "district level" park.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Create a park planning workbook and guidelines for park improvements including community participation procedures.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Encourage the State to continue, and to expand where possible, recreation services at World War II Veterans Memorial State Park (especially in regard to swimming and cultural events) and other State recreational facilities.	Short Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Work with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to ensure the continued provision of "beach buses" and to expand transportation services as needed.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Consider allocation of hotel/motel tax revenues to assist in the development and operation of Heritage Corridor plans.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development / Finance Dept.

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D	Investigate the creation of a parks and recreation foundation to attract and manage private participation in parks, recreation and tourism development.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development
D	Acquire and develop a new neighborhood park in Oak Grove or East Woonsocket in response to population growth.	Long Term	Dept. of Planning and Development





















